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FIJI.

By the arrival at Auckland of the schooner Jennie Duncan, from Fiji, we have a copy of the "Fiji Times" of the 12th instant, from which we make extracts.

The s.s. Eagle arrived from Sydney via New Caledonia, on the 7th. She made a rather long passage of fourteen days between Sydney and New Caledonia, and after leaving that port for Levuka she had to return on account of bad weather and engines breaking down. She met with a severe storm which destroyed four horses and did other damage.

The "Times" urges upon the British Government the advisability of immediately taking possession of Fiji, so as to forestal the United States or Russia. The "Times" says:—"In self-defence then, and on behalf of their own trade and commerce all the Australian colonies should urge upon the Imperial Government the necessity of placing Fiji under the protection of the British flag.

The Prince, a vessel belonging to King George of Tonga, has arrived at the Lau Islands, bringing a large double canoe, as a present from King George to the chief of Bua. Both the Prince and the canoe were loaded with native bread, which has been distributed among the Windward Islands, where scarcity of food has been severely felt during the past few months.

A case of some importance to the trading community of Fiji was heard and decided at the British Consulate. Messrs Frost and Grover brought an action to recover certain cotton brought by the Jennie Duncan. Arbitrators were appointed, and decided in their favor.

Mr and Mrs Gardiner, of Viti Levu coast, were attacked and brutaly beaten by eight or ten natives from Tovatova, a town situated near to Gardiner's plantation. The quarrel arose through the killing of goats that had strayed to their native plantations. Steps are being taken to administrer prompt punishment to the perpetrators of this outrage.

A man known by the name of Sam, who left the wharf at the beginning of the week with others was drowned while proceeding to Savu Savu. E. B. March, Esq., her Majesty's Consul, has set aside one day in each week for the hearing and settlement of cases by arbitration.

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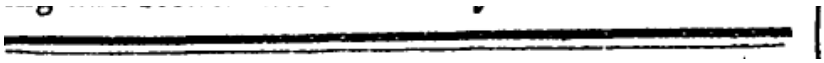

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